THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2556 *Saturday, Feb.* 20, 1830. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

MR. KEAN made his second appearance since his convalescence last night, in the character of *Shylock*, in *The Merchant of Venice*, and played the part so excellently that scarcely any terms of praise can be applied to it which could be called exaggeration. Cooper and Aitken were highly respectable as *Bassanio* and *Antonio;* but Mr. Browne's *Gratiano*, was more remarkable for an appearance of folly than of gaiety. Harley was very amusing as *Launcelot;* the scene between him and Webster, as old *Gobbo*, was admirably acted. Miss Phillip's *Portia* is a performance, which if it does not quite satisfy the critic, leaves no room for censure. Miss Betts, as *Jessica*, and Sinclair, as *Lorenzo*, sang sweetly, and were much applauded. *Jack in the Box* was the afterpiece.

Covent Garden Theatre.

LAST night the Tragedy of *Venice Preserved*, was performed at this Theatre to a very numerous audience. Miss Fanny Kemble's *Belvidera* was the chief attraction, and a very talented performance it was. Her parting scene with *Jaffier* represented the utmost point of human agony; an accumulation of woes under which the reason totters; she gave the line "the air's too thin, and pierces my weak brain," with an expression of suffering, that was uncommonly effective. C. Kemble's *Pierre*, was a fine piece of acting, and in the scene with the conspirators, and that where he is condemned by the senate, he obtained great applause. Warde's *Jaffier* was as usual an alternation of whining and ranting. *A Husband's Mistake* followed, in which Mr. Keeley's *Corporal* was very entertaining.

TOTTENHAM STREET THEATRE.—*The Field of Forty Footsteps* continues to draw excellent houses, and, aided by the incomparable acting of Vining and Miss A. Tree, is really a very effective piece.—Mrs. Waylett's part of *Rose Downright* (that lady having been taken seriously ill immediately after her Benefit) has been assigned to Miss Butline, whose rapid progress in her profession has more than realised our expectations, for, with all the former representative's popularity, by her spirited acting, and chaste and tasteful singing, she left us little or nothing to regret;—her exertions elicited much applause, and she appears most deservedly to have become a great favorite with the public. In the Farce of *High Life below Stairs*, (which, by the bye, passed off amidst universal shouts of laughter) she was also very

successful as *Lady Charlotte*; as was Miss A. Tree in *Lady Bab*;—her dress, although exhibiting the broadest caricature, displayed the most exquisite taste. Mrs. Tayleure (who proved her utility to the establishment, by playing four parts of opposite character on the same evening) did full justice to *Mrs. Kitty*. It is unnecessary to say that Vining's *Lord Duke* was excellent, and Ross's *Sir Harry* very amusing. The introduction of the Gallopade by the characters, in the supper scene, (in lieu of the Mock Minuet) was well conceived, and created such irresistible merriment as to cause an universal encore, which was insisted on, although the piteous appeals in the countenances of the ladies proved how much they were already suffering from their exertions. *Monsieur Tonson* was the last piece, in which Gattie gave all the terrors of the poor old Frenchman with his usual effect.

The Benefit for the French comedians on Thursday next, promises to be very attractive. Mr. Kean has kindly volunteered his services, and the great *star* of the Adelphi will appear in an Indian Ballet.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two grand views, at the DIORAMA Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's, or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's will satisfy me.

On Tuesday, I drop into the Exhibition of SCULPTURE, in Old Bond Street, to view the figures, life size, of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny—work of a self-taught artist, James Thom—delighted beyond measure—fully expected to hear Tam's uproarious laugh—the expression so perfect; *pose* of figures admirable. Whoever has read Burns, (and who has not?) must see them—This very ingenious Exhibition closes in the course of a few weeks.

On Friday, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

Last night dropp'd into the new Grand Cigar Divan, 102, Strand—was quite struck with the *coup d'œil* of its splendid *Salon!*—nearly 60 feet in length—brilliantly lighted, tastefully decorated, Foreign and English papers and periodicals, Chess tables, &c. Delicious Cigars, and Coffee and Sherbet, might tempt the palate of the Grand Signior. So charmed with my accommodation, and the agreeable society I met there, must often call in.

I daily, between 1 and 4, qualify Mrs. Pry's discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found at *The Apollonicon*, 101, St. Martin's Lane.—Market and Fishermen's Chorus, from the Opera of Masaniello, enchanting!

I nightly lounge in the lobbies—fond of adventure—observed a beautiful Sylph admiring herself in my boots—'Why, Mr. Pry,' says she, 'does a great actress resemble Warren's Jet Blacking?' 'Because she cuts a *shine*.'—I never give it up—but I intrude—beg pardon, Your's, PAUL PRY.

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☞ The Observer is delivered daily at the Residences of the Subcribers at 2s. per Month.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, (8th time) a new Opera, in three acts, called

NINETTA;

Or, THE MAID OF PALAISEAU.

With new Scenery, Dresses and Decorations.
Music from Rossini's Opera, La Gazza Ladra, arranged by Bishop,

Blaisot, Mr KEELEY,
La Roche, (Justice of Palaiseau) Mr G. PENSON,
Michel Mercour.....Mr BARTLEY,
Adolphe, (his Son) Mr WOOD,
Delande...(Father of Ninette)..Mr MORLEY,
Francœur, Mr HENRY, Bertrand, Mr PURDAY,
Petit Jacques..... Miss H. CAWSE,
Antoine, Mr IRWIN,
Shadrach....(a Jew Pedlar).... Mr J. RUSSELL.
Madelon, Mrs KEELEY,
Ninetta...(the Maid of Palaiseau)....Miss PATON,

After which, (9th time) a new Farce, in one act, called

Teddy, the Tiler.

Lord Dunderford, Mr EVANS, Bombardine, Mr HORREBOW,
Henry, Mr DURUSET, Frederick, Mr BAKER,
Mr Scrivener, Mr TURNOUR, Tim, Mr ADAMSON,
Teddy Mulowney, the Tiler, Mr POWER,
Stiff, Mr HENRY, Apewell, Mr IRWIN, Richard, Mr HEATH.
Lady Dunderford, Mrs WESTON, Julia, Mrs BROWN,
Oriel.....Miss LAWRENCE, Flora.....Miss J. SCOTT.

After which, (9th time) a new Musical Romance called

Robert the Devil,

Duke of Normandy.

The Music, entirely new, by I. Barnett. Scenery by Messrs. Grieve, &c.

Lindor.....Mr DURUSET, Edmond.....Mr HORREBOW,
Robert, Duke of Normandy, Mr G. BENNETT,
Jaques Bocage, Mr MEADOWS, Gontran, Mr TURNOUR,
Picolo, Mr KEELEY.
Countess de Rosambert, Miss LACY, Blanche, Miss HUGHES,
Who will sing—'*As when the recreant Soldier hears,*' & '*The False-hearted.*'
Matilda, Mrs VINING, Dame Gertrude, Mrs WESTON,
Lodine, Miss CAWSE—in which she will sing 'The little Blind Boy.

On Monday, The Grecian Daughter, Teddy the Tiler, &c.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Opera of

MASANIELLO.

Don Alphonso, (Son of the Viceroy of Naples) Mr T. COOKE,
Masaniello, (a Neapolitan Fishermen) Mr SINCLAIR,
Pietro, Mr BEDFORD, Ruffino, Mr BLAND, Moreno, Mr YARNOLD,
Lorenzo, (Alphonso's Friend) Mr LEE,
Fenella.....(Masaniello's Sister).....Mrs W. BARRYMORE,
Elvira, (Bride of Alphonso) Miss BETTS,

After which, the Drama of

THE BRIGAND.

Prince Bianchi, Mr BROWNE, Albert, Mr H. WALLACK,
Theodore, Mr J. VINING, Alessandro Massaroni, Mr WALLACK,
Nicolo, Mr WEBSTER, Rubaldo, Mr BEDFORD,
Ottavia, Miss FAUCIT, Maria Grazie, Mrs BARRYMORE.

To conclude with (48th time) a new Grand Comic Pantomime, called

Jack in the Box.

Peep-Ho, Guardian of the Adamant Box, & Pantaloon, Mr BARNES.
High-ho, a Knight on a love-errand, & Harlequin, Mr HOWELL,
Rum-go, his 'Squire and Follower, & Clown, Mr J. S. GRIMALDI,
Luciana, Princess of the Hidden Island, & Columbine, Miss RYAL,
Stoo-Pan, the Giant's Head Cook, Mr CHIKINI,
Flickerflame, the Goblin, Miss LANE, Glimmer, Mr SHERIFF,
Jack in the Box. Mr RICHARDSON, Blueblaze, Mr S. JONES,
Fum-she, the Giant's only Child, Mr WIELAND,
Siamese Youths, with an united Pas Deux, Mess. Wieland & Chikini,
Hon. Mr Trifletime, with a Song.....Miss POOL,
Mushapug, the Monkey, the Phænomenon, Myn. VON KLESHNIG,

New Scenery.

Scene 1 The Enchanted Grove and Goblin Abode (Stanfield) With Fairy Vision of the Hidden Island—2 Exterior of Ho-Fum's Palace (Andrews)—3 The Giant's Dining Parlour (Marinari)—4 Ascent to the Burning Mount, with Beacon Light (Stanfield)—5 The Crater, by Moonlight (Stanfield)—6 Splendid City of the Mists in the Hidden Islands (Stanfield)—7 Lime Kilns near Gravesend (Andrews)—8 New Post Office at 8 A. M, (Marinari) 9 The West End at 9 A. M. (Marinari)—10 A Little Way out of Town—(Andrews)—11 Veluti in Speculum (Andrews) With a Pas de Deux by Mr Howell and Miss Ryal—Les Ombres, Mr Chikini and Miss Macdonald—12 Cheesemonger's Shop and Wine Vaults (Adams)—13 Mount Edgecombe—(Stanfield)—14 Gloucester Coffee House—Snowy Night (Andrews)

Stanfield's Grand Local Diorama,

Displaying—Windsor—Town and Castle of Windsor—The River near Breeas Meadow, Sunset, with Eaton, by Moonlight—Windsor Great Park—The Castle—Plantations near the Royal Lodge—Virginia Waters—The Royal Pavilion—The Upper Lake—The Dry Arch—To conclude with a grand Display of the Falls of the Virginia Waters, in which 39 tons of Water will be introduced.

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